

III. EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Town of Mebane was granted a charter in 1881 and was designated Mebanesville, with Stephen A. White becoming its first mayor in that year. In 1883, the Town Charter was amended to change the name to read as it does today.

The town is located in Alamance and Orange Counties, twenty-five miles west of Durham and ten miles east of Burlington (see Figure 2). The incorporated town plus the one-mile extra-territorial zoning area was identified as the planning area for this study.

Population Trends

Mebane has experienced steady growth from a population of 693 in 1910 to 2,433 in 1970. This growth has occurred in part by annexation. Table 1 shows the past population growth for Mebane and surrounding areas.

TABLE 1
PAST POPULATION GROWTH¹

	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970
Mebane	693	1351	1568	2060	2068	2364	2433
Melville Township	1943	2711	3141	3937	4785	5855	6505
Cheeks Township	1762	2049	2219	2235	3021	3646	3711

Table 2 illustrates the present and future population trends. The future population growth takes into consideration the past trends in population growth and future projection as to the amount of increase that can be expected. The population growth for the Town of Mebane has been modest over the years and is anticipated to keep growing at a steady pace.

Approximately 4750 persons were living within the Mebane Planning Area when the first Thoroughfare Plan was prepared. Since then the Town has annexed four new areas into its corporate limits, thus enlarging the planning area.

¹Population and Economy, Mebane, North Carolina, 1966
North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development.